

The Blurb

A Publication of

THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.
c/o 641 KISMET ROAD, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19115-1114



J & J HARING
PO BOX 640
Useppa Island
Bokeelia

FL 33922

W3IIM
WS

FIRST CLASS MAIL

33922X0640



The Blurb

FEBRUARY
2000



First Board Meeting
at W3AA

Public Service Since 1949



VOLUME 50
NUMBER 2

is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to nonmembers for \$10 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Enter from Winter Street or the parking garage on 21st street. **ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!**

Amateur Radio License Examinations are held on the *first* non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—registration finishes at 6 p.m. doors close at 6:30 PM—**SHARP!**

CLUB INFORMATION

Mailing address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

Internet Web site: <http://www.phil-mont.org>

E-mail: info@phil-mont.org

2-meter repeater: 147.03 MHz

Additional off-site receivers:

Southampton—Center City—Lansdale—Broomall

70-cm repeater: 444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

Simplex: 147.51 MHz

24-hour club information at W3AA: 215-448-1139

STATIONS

W3AA - (Formerly W3TKQ) The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee WU3I;

Maanager: W3STW

The club sponsors this world-class demonstration station, and welcomes all licensed amateurs to operate it.

W3AA packet BBS frequency: 144.99 MHz: w3aa@w3aa.sepa.pa.usa.noam

W3AA e-mail: w3aa@phil-mont.org

W3EM - Field Day and special events station - Trustee W3VVS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz repeater - Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: **W3AOK**, William H. Popovic, 343 Lemonte Street, Phila., Pa 19128; 215-487-9472

billpopovic@msn.com — n3fvi@w3aa.sepa.pa.usa.noam

VICE PRESIDENT: **W3LEN**, Lenard T. Hughes, P.O. Box 1423 Linwood, PA 19061; 610-485-1849

w3len@aol.com — w3len@w3ch.sepa.pa.usa.noam

SECRETARY: **N3PVO**, Carol L. Sebzda, 761 North Hills Ave., Ardsley, PA 19038; 215-884-5518

n3pvo@aol.com

TREASURER: **K2BN**, Mike Tannenbaum, 545 Cardinal Drive, Dresher, PA 19025; 215-542-5991

k2bn@agtannenbaum.com packet: k2bn@w3ch.sepa.pa.usa.noam

DIRECTORS

WU3I (00); W3RM (00); KB3IV (00); W3STW (01); W3BBB (01); N3MT (01); N3XKE (A)

COMMITTEES

Archives: W3IIN; **Audit:** KE3OP; **Awards:** AA3EP; **Blurb folding:** WB3KOJ & WB3KOH; **Budget:**

K3KUD; **Directory:** WB3KOJ & W3IIM; **DX:** OPEN; **Education:** W3CH; **Emerg. Coord.:** N3XKE; **Field Day:**

WU3I; **Internet:** W3IIM; **Membership:** W3LEN; **Net Control:** KB3IV; **Publicity:** W3RM

Program: W3LEN; **Public Service:** AA3EP; **Refreshments:** W3AOK; **Repeater:** W3BBB; **Skywarn:**

N3LCV; **Special Events:** N3WCO; **Sunshine:** WU3I; **Youth:** KE3ZY; **TVI:** W3VVS; **VE Program:** ND3Q;

W3AA Trustee: WU3I; **W3AA Station Manager:** W3STW; **Welcome:** K3CJ.

NET SCHEDULE

Sunday	09:30	147.03	MHzFM	"Sunday Morning 2 Meter Net"
	10:00	28.393	(+ or - for QRM) MHzSSB	"10-on-10 Net"
	10:20	3.993	MHzSSB	75 Meter Net
Tuesday	20:00	147.03	MHzFM	CW Practice Net

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

01 Charlotte Feirman (XYL K3EUI)

03 Barry Feirman - K3EUI

04 Eunice Bohlander (XYL W3VVS)

Carmen DeCicco - KE3QB

05 Mike Concordia - WB3KAC

08 Jerry Dubzak - N3RPW*

Rob Roomberg - KB3BYT*

10 Sharon Masarsky - N3GLU

11 Jerry Russell - K3JR

14 Kay Russell (XYL K3JR)

17 Sam Smith - K3GBA

18 Bill Mannino - WA3NSP

Mim Roeshman (XYL W3LKI)

20 Rich Cullen - N3XY*

22 Janine Johnson - KB3AXQ

23 Gene DiNardi - N3XKE

24 Bill Biermann - NZ3Z

Barbara Ann Hagerty (XYL AA3BB)

Larry Pollack - N3VLC

28 Roger Cox - K3TYB

*Indicates New Member 1999

HELP PHIL-MONT

Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership? Help P.M.R.C. by joining or renewing through the club... Mike Tannenbaum - K2BN for details.

DUES & DIRECTORY UPDATE

DUES ARE DUE...FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT PAID, THIS IS YOUR NEXT TO LAST BLURB & YOUR LAST CHANCE TO UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY INFORMATION. K2BN AWAITS YOUR MONEY!

"DON'T TAILGATE... WAIT"—for the courtesy ☺!



Membership Applications

CALL: K1IQZ

NAME: JAMES R. PERRY

NICKNAME: JIM

CLASS: A

ADDRESS: One Dieber Road
Schwenksville PA 19473-1847

OCCUPATION: Radio/TV Engineer

HOME PHONE: 610-287-5630

BUS. PHONE: 215-483-6906

E-MAIL: jerry@compuserve.com

PACKET:

COMMITTEES: VE Repeater &
Tech.

CALL: KB3DBE

NAME: Edward C. Fleck

NICKNAME: ED

CLASS: T

ADDRESS: 3553 Winding Way Newtown
Square PA 19073-3822

OCCUPATION: STUDENT

HOME PHONE: 610-353-8578

BUS. PHONE:

E-MAIL: kb3dbe@arrl.new

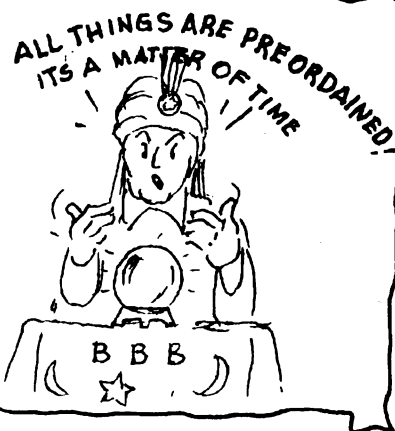
PACKET:

COMMITTEES: FIELD DAY REP/
TECH TVI W3AA

*Same
CORNER*

THE GREAT
SWAMI
SPENCER..
SPEAKS.

I FOR ONE
AGREE...



The PREZ SEZ



I think we all need to be reminded of the big picture occasionally. I feel every Amateur should at least once a year do something to justify keeping the radio spectrum space we now possess (which is worth billions to private industry).

Basis and Purpose of the Amateur Radio Service

Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications FCC[97.1(a)].

Probably the best known aspect of Amateur Radio to the general public is its ability to provide emergency communications.

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

** The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.*

Thank you, for your support in the election. If you have any suggestions to improve Phil-Mont please contact me.

215-487-9472 -home

800-345-1322x517 -work

billpopovic@msn.com -home

W3AOK@cs.com -home

bpopovic@maglocen.riss.net -work

73, W3AOK, BILL

UPCOMING

February 9 The general meeting will be the **MS Pizza Party**. Even if you did not participate in any MS events, come out and show your support for the amateurs who have participated in this great public service event.

May 20 the Chester County Challenge 2000, West Chester, Pa.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Charlie Weigand, AA3EP
Phone: 610-323-1050

Packet: aa3p@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
E-mail: aa3ep@aol.com

Russ Stafford, W3CH
Phone: (610)631-3401 ext. 902
Packet: w3ch@w3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam
E-mail: w3ch@hdj.com

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE SCIENCE MUSEUM

**AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD
ON THE FIRST NON-HOLIDAY
THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH**
For information call ND3Q at
215-448-1139 or 879-0505
accessible by the handicapped

Registration begins at 6:00 PM
Doors close at 6:30 PM sharp

VE Test Locations

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must show two other types of ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 2000 test fee is \$6.65; there is no charge for a Novice test.

- **THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE**
Monthly, 1st Thursday—Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
215- 879-0505 *day*, 215- 448-1139 *24-hours*
- **BELLMAWR, NJ**
Diane Nafis
609-227-6281
- **BRISTOL**
George LeNoir
215-943-4886
- **LEVITTOWN, PA**
David L. Heller, 215-946-1040
- **LINWOOD, PA**—(Commercial & Amateur Exams.)
Russ Stafford, W3CH
610-631-3401 x902
- **TELFORD**
Joseph Burgess
215-723-6697
- **UNIVERSITY OF PA**
Jeff DePolo
215- 898-8538 *shack*, 215-337-7383 *home*
- **WARMINSTER**
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494
- **WILMINGTON**
Giselle Walls
302-478-2757

175th Monthly Phil-Mont VE Test Session Statistics for January, 2000

**Twenty-two (22) candidates took thirty-nine (39) exams.
We had three (3) new amateurs with seven (70) upgrades.**

**The VE team was chaired by Dusty (ND3Q).
Members are: ; Bradley Bacik, KB8PPA; Jim McCloskey,
NS3K; Pete Butler, WB2B; Jeff Kerber, N3VE;
Errol Isaacs, WC3X; Fred Rice, WA3KIO**

Exam Dates for the year 2000:
**Feb. 3; March 2; April 13 (second Thursday); May 4; June 6;
August 10 (second Thursday)**

PHIL-MONT AUCTION A BIG HIT!

Before we report on AUCTIONFEST 2000 let's take a moment to thank those who helped to make it a success! Mike, K2BN and Alice, WA2BTB kept the money under control. Ed, KB3IV did a wonderful job of pushing the paperwork along as the auction was in full swing. Peter, KB3DFQ pulled double duty by moving all the radios to the stage and along with Steve, WU3I kept the things to be auctioned off moving right along. Our talk-in Al, W3STW kept the folks headed in the right direction.

I would also like to thank the trustees of the Metro-Comm repeater network for use of the 443.05 repeater after our Phil-Mont 444.800 went down, as well as, the use of their 147.315 repeater as a backup and the 224.96 repeaters. I would also like to thank our new V.P. Len, W3LEN for making copies of all the forms for the auction. Donald, WB3KOJ did a real nice job on the flyers and Dick, W3RM out did last year on getting the word out to the local clubs and to the ham magazines. The Phil-Mont AUCTIONFEST 2000 was a true group effort of the club and it shows just how well our club can work together.

OK the Auction report. We made \$324.50 for our contingency fund and \$105.50 in the sellers fees and commissions for the night that will go to our general fund. Not a bad fundraiser for one night. The big plus is a lot of fun was had by everyone who was there! I had a great evening and was very tired when I got home! I hope to see even more Phil-Monsters at the next AUCTIONFEST 2001!

Russ W3CH

issued after April 15, 2000, can't I just take the current Amateur Extra written examination (Element 4B) and use the CSCE to get my Amateur Extra when the new rules become effective?

Nice try, but, the answer is no. If you're going to take your examination before April 15, 2000, you must complete both Element 4A (instant upgrade to Advanced) and Element 4B, then take your CSCE for Element 4B to a VE session on or after April 15 to apply for your Amateur Extra ticket (this means filling out Form 605 and paying the application fee, if any, to the VEC). And yes, in this example, it means you would need to appear at two test sessions. You also could just wait until April 15 and take the single 50-question Extra class written test. (See also A Summary of Restructuring Upgrade Possibilities.)

10. I've got my Advanced now and want to take Element 4B before April 15, 2000. What license manual should I study?

The new question pool has not been developed yet for the post-April 15, 2000, tests. Use the current Extra Class License Manual, available from the ARRL. New study guides will be developed to reflect the new testing regime. Likewise, those wanting to take Element 3B to upgrade from Tech Plus to General should study the current General Class License Manual, available from the ARRL.

11. Can I use my valid Element 4B credit CSCE for the Extra written examination element to upgrade before April 15, 2000?

Only if you also pass the 20 WPM Morse code examination. Otherwise, you'll have to apply after April 15, 2000, when the new rules become effective. Remember, your Element 4B CSCE must be dated on or after April 17, 1999, in order to be valid on April 15, 2000. A CSCE is only valid for 365 days.

12. I'd heard that Novices and Tech Pluses would be getting an automatic upgrade to General when the new rules go into effect. Is this true?

Unfortunately, no. In its comments to the FCC, the ARRL had proposed that the FCC upgrade all holders of Novice and Tech Plus licenses to General class as a one-time action to permit "refarming" current Novice/Tech Plus HF subbands for higher-class licensees. The FCC did not adopt this recommendation in its Report and Order of December 30, 1999, however. (ARRL web site)



Minutes

JANUARY DIRECTORS' MEETING

Carol Sebzda, N3PVO, Secretary



The January 2000 Directors' Meeting was opened by the club's new president elect Bill (W3AOK). In attendance were the following: Bill (W3AOK), Ed (KB3IV), Gene (N3XKE), Al (W3STW), Jim (W3BBB), Carol (N3PVO), Dick (W3RM), Mike (N3MT), Mike (K2BN), Steve (WU3I), Dean (N3TAL), Dusty (ND3Q), Rick (N3DHI), and Alice (WA2BTB). The minutes from the December Directors' Meeting were read to insure there were no issues left pending. The following reports were made: **TREASURER** - Mike (K2BN) gave the last report for the 1999 calendar year and went over the expenditures the club incurred for the year.

BUDGET - Mike (K2BN) reported a budget for 2000 has been prepared and was discussed briefly. The new budget will be ready for approval shortly. The Blurb, as usual, will be one of the biggest expenses.

NEW BUSINESS - All members be reminded your year 2000 dues need to be paid promptly.

REPEATER - Jim (W3BBB) reported the UHF side is still down and he is trying to find new finals to make the necessary repairs.

MEMBERSHIP - There was one new applicant published for a membership vote. A motion was made and approved to accept Theodore F. Hassell (KB3CYE) into membership.

With no further business for discussion the meeting was closed.



THE W 3 A A REPORT

W3AA continues to recover from a 1999 lightning strike. Several people really extended themselves this past month toward that recovery. I want you to read about them. Many thanks to Jim, W3BBB, for restoring the 147.03 MHz command xcvr. The second week of this year brought winds strong enough to blow down a couple of wire antennas and W3AA control operator Dom, K3VSW, saw the problem and promptly reported it. Good eye Dom. A special thanks to Station Trustee Steve, WU3I, for braving the cold and windy conditions (wind chill -14 degrees F). After working all day he took the time and effort to put the antennas back up. Steve has also provided the technical support and hardware that will allow W3AA to pass bulletin board traffic.

Thanks to W3AA control operators Rob, KB3BYT, and Paul, N3PSO, for supporting the F.I.S.M. Camp In.

Timely communications from Bobbie and Adrienne helped to make our club mid-month meeting in W3AA a success. This is significant, because for the first time ever P.M.R.C. mid and general club meetings can be held the same night providing savings in time and effort to the Board. Thank you Bobbie and Adrienne. From the above it is obvious W3AA is getting a lot of support

I hope it continues.

AL, W3STW.

(editor's note: We will all miss Al asking for directions to Board member's houses)

Internet: <http://www.fi.edu/tfi/exhibits/w3aa.html>

technical questions). To be valid on April 15, 2000, your CSCE will have to be dated on or after April 17, 1999. A CSCE is only good for 365 days. (See also A Summary of Restructuring Upgrade Possibilities.)

4. I got my Technician license under the old system prior to March 21, 1987, and I now hold a Tech Plus license as a result. I understand that I'm now eligible to upgrade to General without having to take an additional examination. Is this correct? Yes. Holders of a pre-March 21, 1987, Technician class license (or a CSCE) may claim credit for a new General class license after April 15, 2000. This is because under the old system, the written examination for Technician and General class was identical; the only difference was that Technicians had to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test, while Generals had to pass a 13 WPM Morse code test. The upgrade is not automatic, however. You will have to apply through a Volunteer Examiner test session, complete Form 605, attach documentary proof of having completed the requirements for a Technician license prior to March 21, 1987, and pay an application fee, if any, to the VEC involved.

5. What do I need for "documentary proof" of having held my Technician license before March 21, 1987?

Obviously, if you have an original or a copy of your Technician license issued anytime prior to March 21, 1987, that would suffice. Other documentary evidence could include an original CSCE for Element 3 issued prior to that date; an FCC verification letter of having held a Technician license prior to March 21, 1987; a document from the FCC's contractor, ITS Inc; or possibly a Callbook listing dated prior to March 21, 1987, indicating your license class as Technician.

6. I've lost my old license and didn't keep any copies. How do I get verification from the FCC that I held a Technician license prior to March 21, 1987?

You can write the FCC, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Provide the FCC with your name, address, and current call sign as well as all details of your licensing. The FCC may be able to verify in writing that you held a Technician license prior to March 21, 1987. You also may contact ITS Inc (visit <http://www.itsdocs.com/>). For a fee, ITS will research prior licensing records and should be able to provide you with the necessary documentary proof.

7. I've got an Advanced ticket now. Someone told me that I'll revert to General on April 15, 2000. Is this true?

Absolutely not, although this rumor has been making the rounds on the Internet and on-air discussion groups. You will continue to be an Advanced class licensee and have Advanced class privileges after April 15. Again, no one loses any privileges, and all license classes stay the same.

8. How can I find out where there's a Volunteer Examiner session so I can apply for an upgrade or take an examination element?

A session search engine is available on ARRLWeb at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>. Also, feel free to contact local VEs or ask local clubs for information on testing sessions in your area.

9. I now hold a General class ticket. Since there won't be any more Advanced tickets

Frequently Asked Questions about Amateur Radio Restructuring

1. Will anyone lose any Amateur Radio operating privileges after April 15, 2000?

No! All current license classes and privileges will remain the same, and all licensees will be able to renew their licenses indefinitely. (The sole exception is for those who obtained a Technician license or exam credit prior to March 21, 1987—see question 4, below.) The primary difference is that the FCC will stop issuing new Novice and Advanced class licenses after April 15, 2000. Beyond that, current Technician and Technician Plus licensees will be lumped into a single Technician licensee FCC database. When renewed, current Technician Plus licenses will be stamped simply "Technician." Technicians who have passed Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse code examination, will enjoy current Tech Plus HF privileges, but the burden of proof of having passed Element 1 (5 WPM or any higher Morse code element) will be on the licensee. The current "no-code" Technician license will continue to be available after the new rules go into effect, however. It will continue to offer the present VHF/UHF privileges.

2. I currently hold a Tech Plus license. Can I take the current General class written examination (Element 3B) right now, then apply for an upgrade to General after April 15, 2000? I'm a little confused on this point.

Yes. The FCC has told the League that current Tech Plus licensees holding a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for Element 3B on April 15, 2000, may apply for a General class upgrade. The present Element 3B examination has 30 questions; the new Element 3 test will have 35, so the advantage to test before April 15, 2000, is slight. CSCE holders must attend a Volunteer Examiner session, complete Form 605, attach a valid CSCE, and pay the required application fee (\$6.65 for the ARRL-VEC), if the VEC you use charges a fee. To be valid on April 15, 2000, your CSCE will have to be dated on or after April 17, 1999. A CSCE is only good for 365 days. (See also A Summary of Restructuring Upgrade Possibilities.)

3. I hold an Advanced class license. Can I take the current Amateur Extra class written examination (Element 4B) right now, then apply for an upgrade to Extra after April 15, 2000?

Yes. The FCC has told the League that current Advanced licensees holding a CSCE for Element 4B on April 15, 2000, may apply for an Amateur Extra class upgrade. See question 2, above. The advantage here is that the current Advanced licensee will face a slightly shorter 40-question examination under the current licensing regime to get a CSCE for the current Element 4B. The new Extra class Element 4 will contain 5 questions (and is expected to contain many of the present Advanced class question pool

Minutes

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

Carol Sebzda, N3PVO, Secretary

The 593rd General Meeting of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club was called to order by our new President, Bill (W3AOK) who welcomed all for attending. Because of the auction, the meeting was brief. Membership packets were handed out to the new members in attendance and with everyone anxious the meeting was closed and the Auctionfest began. Hope to see you all at next month's meeting.

The Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.



AMATEUR RADIO NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer seventy-three (73) scholarships for the academic year 2000 - 2001 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds ten of these scholarships with the income from grants and its annual Hamfest. The remaining sixty-three (63) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their world wide web home pages.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 2000 from:

FAR Scholarships
Post Office Box 831
Riverdale, MD 20738

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

ATLANTIC DIVISION HAMFEST CALENDAR

FEB 19 + Harrisburg RAC - Oberlin, PA
 FEB 19 ARA of the Southern Tier - Horseheads, NY
 FEB 20 + Wireless Assn of South Hills - Castle Shannon, PA
 FEB 20 + Lancaster ARC - Cheektowaga, NY
 MAR 12 + Keystone VHF Club - York, PA
 MAR 25-26+ Baltimore ARC - Timonium, MD MD State Convention
 APR 9 + Two Rivers ARC - Monroeville, PA
 APR 29 Champlain Valley ARC - Plattsburgh, NY
 APR 30 + Penn-Del ARC - New Castle, DE Delaware State Convention
 APR 30 WACOM - PA
 MAY 6 Binghamton ARA - Owego, NY
 MAY 7 + Antietam RA - Hagerstown, MD
 MAY 7 + Warminster ARC - Wrightstown, PA
 MAY 28 Maryland FM Assn - West Friendship, MD
 JUN 2- 4+ Rochester Hamfest - Rochester, NY Atlantic Division Convention
 JUN 4 + Breezeshooters - Butler, PA
 JUN 10 + Columbia-Montour ARC - Bloomsburg, PA Eastern PA Section Convention
 JUL 2 + Murgas ARC - Dallas, PA
 JUL 9 + North Hills ARC - Pittsburgh, PA
 JUL 16 + Mid-Atlantic ARC / Valley Forge Hamfest - Kimberton, PA
 JUL 30 + BRATS - Timonium, MD
 AUG 5 Tompkins County ARC - NY
 AUG 13 + Jersey Shore ARS - Bayville, NJ
 AUG 27 + Skyview Radio Society - New Kensington, PA
 SEP 9 Radio Assn of Erie - Erie, PA
 SEP 10 + Butler Co. ARA - Butler, PA SEP 23 + Buffalo Hamfest - Hamburg, NY

+ indicates ARRL Hamfest

***Blur* STAFF**

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n3tal@erols.com

Artist: N3QIE (500th issue)

Labels and mailing: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH

Deadline: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy must be in the hands of the Editor at the General meeting of the month before publication.

2000 Auctionfest a Success



The workers; Ed, KB3IV; Steve, WU3I; Peter KB3DFQ; Russ, W3CH



The keepers of the cash: Mike, K2BN; Alice, WA2BTB

ARRL Seeks Reconsideration of PRB-1 Petition Denial

The ARRL wants the FCC to declare that its limited federal preemption policy known as PRB-1 applies to amateurs who live in areas governed by deed restrictions, covenants, CC&Rs, or condominium regulations just as it does to hams regulated solely by local zoning laws.

In a Petition for Reconsideration filed in late December, the League formally asked the FCC to rethink its November decision to dismiss a 1996 ARRL Petition for Rule Making. That petition called on the Commission to expand and clarify the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1.

In November, the FCC said PRB-1 excludes restrictive covenants in private contracts as "outside the reach of our limited preemption," although it strongly encouraged associations of homeowners and private contracting parties to "follow the principle of reasonable accommodation" with respect to Amateur Radio.

In asking the FCC to rethink its November Order, the League said the FCC's disclaimer "is no longer a valid premise" and no longer accurately reflects FCC jurisdiction over private land use regulations.

Since PRB-1 came out in 1985, the ARRL pointed out, the FCC has made it clear that it has Congressional authority to prohibit restrictive covenants that could keep property owners and even renters from installing antennas to receive TV, satellite and similar signals. The League asserts the same principle applies to Amateur Radio, in which the FCC has said it has a "strong federal interest."

The League called on the FCC to clarify that it intends PRB-1 to apply to private land use regulations "to the extent that it has the jurisdiction to do so." Such an approach, the League said, would leave hams free to negotiate reasonable accommodation provisions with local homeowners' associations just as they do now with governmental land use regulators.

The League also asked the FCC to provide some relief via PRB-1 to protect amateurs from "prohibitive and excessive fees" that localities might impose for permits and fees. "Excessive costs associated with burdensome screening requirements are also often imposed by municipalities seeking a mechanism to preclude amateur antennas notwithstanding the PRB-1 policy," the League said.

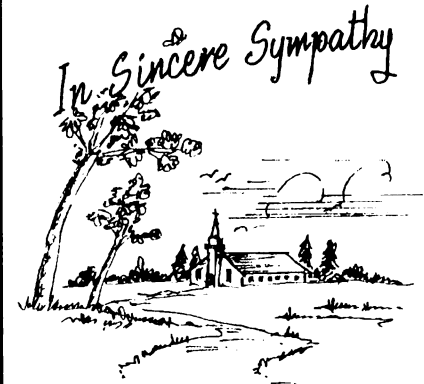
The ARRL asked the FCC to at least provide a statement that "excessive costs associated with land use approvals fail the 'reasonable accommodation' and 'minimum practicable restriction' tests of PRB-1."

The League urged the FCC to revise and restate its preemption policy and issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making "without delay" to amend Part 97 of the rules or to issue an Order clarifying its PRB-1 preemption policy. A copy of the ARRL's Petition for Reconsideration is available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org>. (ARRL)



*A Phil-Mont members loss...
is a Phil-Mont Family loss*

We note with sadness the passing on January 12, 2000 of Peggy Snyder, XYL of one of Phil-Mont's longest members, Chuck Snyder, W2SHA.



*A Phil-Mont members loss...
is a Phil-Mont Family loss*

Sadly we report the passing, on January 20, 2000, of Rose Kuncovich, XYL of Phil-Mont's blurb cartoonist and honorary member, Sam, N3Q9E.

MS Pizza Party

You are cordially invited to the Multiple Sclerosis public service event wrap-up

meeting and thank you party. Bring the OM, XYL, or YL to this event. There will be discussions on how the event can be improved and plenty of pizza.

Attending will be the Ham Event Coordinator Russ, W3CH, Charlie, AA3EP as well as Staff members from the M.S. Society. They will answer any questions ranging from communications coordination to where does all the money go? Plan on joining the team for a Thank You that is well deserved. If it were not for hams like you, the M.S. 150 City To Shore Bike Tour would not be the largest two-day Ham public service event on the

Eastern Sea Board. All Hams who participate in public service work are most welcome!

Honorees:

PhilMont, PennWireless, Burlington County Races, Camden County Ares, Shore Points ARC, Station W3AA, Carl Owens (WB0CPR), Charlie Weigand (AA3EP), Russ (W3CH), and many others.

Date: February 9, 2000

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: The Franklin Institute-20th and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, Pa. (Plenty of indoor parking.)

Talk in: 147.03, 224.96, 443.05, 224.68
For more information you may contact Russ or Charlie at the above repeaters or

by phone 610-631-3401 for Russ or 610-323-1050.

2000

FEBRUARY

2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Code Practice 8PM W3AOK	2	3 LICENSE EXAM Session at The Franklin Institute Registration at 6:00 Doors close at 6:30 p.m. sharp!	4	5
6 2M NCS W3STW 10M NCS W3AA 75M NCS W3PWG	7	8 Code Practice 8PM W3RM	9 Board Meeting Starts at 7:00 General Meeting Starts at 7:30 both held at the Franklin Institute	10	11	12 <i>Blurb DEADLINE!</i>
13 2M NCS WB3KQJ 10M NCS W3AA 75M NCS W3STW	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15 Code Practice 8PM WA3NSP	16	17	18	19 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY Full Moon
20 2M NCS KB3IV 10M NCS W3AA 75M NCS N3JDM	21 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED	22 Code Practice 8PM W3AOK	23	24	25	26
27 2M NCS N3FTY 10M NCS W3AA 75M NCS KB3IV	28	29 Code Practice 8PM W3RM				February — From the Latin 'to smoke' as the second month was reserved by the Romans for purification.